

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 957

By Littleton

A RESOLUTION to honor Janet Walker on the occasion of her retirement.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly are pleased to recognize an outstanding citizen who has contributed significantly to our public library system, while encouraging reading and promoting literacy in her community; and

WHEREAS, Janet Walker is taking a much-deserved retirement in July 2022 after fifteen years of dedicated service to the good people of Kingston Springs and Pegram as their beloved librarian; and

WHEREAS, Janet Walker has served with distinction as the Director of the South Cheatham County Public Library in Kingston Springs since July 2007 and has distinguished herself as a model public servant throughout her illustrious tenure; and

WHEREAS, Janet Walker attended the Tennessee State Library and Archives' Public Library Management Institute and received her Public Library Manager certification from the State of Tennessee in 2012; and

WHEREAS, the South Cheatham County Public Library, which is housed in a log cabin, was nominated for "Best Small Library in America" honors under her watch; and

WHEREAS, her log-cabin library was also featured in an episode of *Tennessee Crossroads* that aired in November 2018; and

WHEREAS, through a joint effort with the Cheatham Chamber of Commerce and the Tennessee Tourism Department, Janet Walker oversaw the dedication of the only Civil War Trails Marker in Cheatham County on the front lawn of the South Cheatham Library in 2011; and

WHEREAS, a tragedy occurred on March 2, 2012, when the South Cheatham Library was struck by a tornado; although the library had to be completely gutted and remained closed for fifteen weeks, the log cabin was completely restored as a result of Janet Walker's dedication, determination, and leadership; and

WHEREAS, Janet Walker has participated in Library Legislative Day at the State Capitol each year of her tenure as the South Cheatham librarian; she has also presented multiple State training events and workshops for the Regional Library System and the Tennessee Library Association on such topics as disaster preparedness, community partnerships, and program planning and space utilization for small libraries; and

WHEREAS, she always read to students in the Cheatham County school district on "Read Across America Day" and on countless other occasions and has presented training for educators on incorporating cooking into curriculum; and

WHEREAS, under Janet Walker's astute direction, the South Cheatham Library has hosted the Kingston Springs Annual Christmas Tree Lighting and Cookie Contest for the last fourteen years; and

WHEREAS, an icon in her community, she is a member of the Cheatham County Literacy Association, the Tennessee Library Association, and the Association for Rural and Small Libraries; and

WHEREAS, prior to becoming Director of the South Cheatham Library, Janet Walker molded young minds as a school teacher for thirty years; she is most grateful for the love and companionship she shares with her husband, Richard; their sons, Richard, Jr., Russel, and Jeremy; and their five grandsons; and

WHEREAS, as Janet Walker answers the tantalizing call of retirement, she is worthy of our approbation on this landmark occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor Janet Walker on the occasion of her retirement as the Director of the South Cheatham County Public Library, reflecting fondly upon her peerless service to her community as their beloved librarian, and extend to her our best wishes for much continued success and happiness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.